

Appl. No.: 10/696,052  
Amdt. Dated: January 31, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of: September 22, 2006

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants have amended the specification and claim 14 herein to correct the typographical error of listing group VIIIA elements rather than group VIII. The Examiner has deemed that one skilled in the art would immediately recognize this error and the appropriate correction.

Applicants have withdrawn claims 19 - 25, without prejudice as directed to Group II. Applicants hereby provisionally elect species A1 and B1. Claims in Group I that read on the elected species are 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. (Claims 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 of Group II also read on the species elected.) Applicants further adopt the following priority for Markush group catalyst materials:

#### Claim 14:

group IVA  
group VA  
group VIIA  
group VIII

#### Claim 15:

silicon carbide  
silicon nitride  
platinum  
nickel oxide

#### **1. Drawings**

The Examiner has not indicated in the accompanying form PTO-948 that the formal drawings previously submitted have been approved. An approval is hereby requested.


Applicants believe that a 4 (four) month extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicants be in error, Applicants respectfully request the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Response timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or

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surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned  
firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Gregory V. Bean (607) 974-2698.

January 31, 2007  
Date

<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION</b> <b>UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8</b>	
I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being transmitted by facsimile 571-273-8300 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at on:	
<u>January 31, 2007</u> Date	
 Gregory V. Bean	<u>1/31/07</u> Date

Respectfully submitted,  
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